



TOPLINE NEWS FROM READ TO ME PROJECT

APRIL 2024

We know Read to Me Project works, but don't just take our word for it...

Exciting Staff and Board Announcements

Read some unedited responses from participating students sharing what they like best about our program:



Charlie Orsburn



Morgan Falor



Kathy Tojaga

"I like that now that i joined i have more books to read my little baby brother and not read him the same book over and over again."

5th grader, King City

"It helps the small kids get ready mainly beacuse i didn't get that chance."

5th grader, Salinas

"what I like the best is that my little sister could be smart before she go's to school"

4th grader, Greenfield

"how it helps kid and people read and find a book that's right for them."

6h grader, Greenfield

Current board member Charlie Orsburn, a seasoned professional with a master's in international policy studies and extensive non-profit experience, has assumed the role of Board Chairperson. With a passion for cross-cultural communication and literacy, Charlie is poised to lead Read to Me Project to new heights.

Joining the board is Morgan Falor, a distinguished CPA and CFRE with a wealth of experience in nonprofit finance. Morgan's background in both private sector and public accounting brings invaluable expertise to our organization.

After more than eight years of dedicated service, we bid farewell to Mary De Groat in January. We extend our deepest gratitude for her countless contributions to Read to Me Project and wish her a joyful retirement.

Leveraging her sponsorship and marketing background and experience as our former Program Director, Amanda Evans has transitioned to the role of Marketing and Development Director following Mary's departure.

And finally, we are delighted to welcome back Kathy Tojaga as our new Program Director. With her previous experience as a Read to Me Project coordinator and years in school administration, Kathy brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to her role.

"it is fun and i get to
spend time with my littel
sister"

4th grader, Salinas

Please join us in congratulating Charlie, Morgan, Amanda and Kathy on their new positions, and in expressing gratitude to Mary for her many years of service. Together, we look forward to advancing our vision of *Every Child Entering Kindergarten Prepared to Succeed*.

THANK YOU! Your donations to *Monterey County Gives!*, combined with the program's match, totaled \$93,532.29. Read to Me Project's prevention-based solution to low literacy among under-served children is designed to change lives...with your help it is!

Program Update

More than three thousand 4th, 5th and 6th grade students and little ones ages 6 months to 5-years-old are participating in the 2023/2024 program. Throughout the year, each student has access to 160 different books to borrow for reading out loud to their little ones at home. To encourage continued reading habits and to help create an at-home library, volunteers and staff helped students wrap more than 800 new books to give as gifts to their little ones at our popular Holiday Book Wrap event in December.



RtMP's parent education program is underway with teen parents through a continuing partnership with South Monterey County Joint Union High School District. New collaborations are in development with a few key organizations to expand RtMP's ability to reach parents of little ones and we expect to provide more details in the coming months.

Make Literacy Your Legacy

By including Read to Me Project in your will, estate plan, or by making a gift to an endowment fund, you can make a profound difference in the lives of underserved children, helping them achieve kindergarten readiness and paving the way for a brighter future for generations to come. To learn more about how you can empower children through the lasting gift of literacy, please contact Julia Foster at 831.275.1300 x 701 or julia@readtomeproject.org.

[Donate](#)

[Website](#)

Every child entering kindergarten prepared to succeed.

